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CENTER LINE

MONTANA'S HIGHWAYS

Published bi-monthly for the employees of the Montana Department of Highways, state-wide.

PUBLISHED SINCE JANUARY, 1938

ASHTON'S BUTTE

May-June 1974

18 YEARS AGO

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
930 East Lyndale Avenue
Helena, Montana 59601

BRIDGE SECTION, OCTOBER 1956—Standing left to right: Edward Miller, Gene Torseth, Granny Edgmond, Hookai Lui, Don Gruel, Faye Sime, Howard Stratton, John Beer, Con Markellis, Don Benson, Jack Beckert, and Robert Koerper. Seated, left to right: Jim Alexander, H.W. Krueger, Mark Hopkins, A.W. (Bill) Jones, Gerry Spraycar, I.W. (Irvy) Hays. (Photo courtesy Ed Miller.)

Old Survey Crew Photographed On Continental Divide Job

Mrs. George Morlang of Sherman Oaks, California recently sent a letter to the Information Unit with pictures of a survey crew that surveyed parts of the Continental Divide in the Garnet Range, north of Helena in 1915 and 1916. Her husband was a member of three different crews on the project.

The survey was conducted by the Federal Government, and the crew was hired out of Helena by Scott Harrison, chief highway engineer. The crews outfitted from a store owned by a Mr. Glascock, in the lumber town of Ovando. The town was 50 miles from the nearest railroad town of Drummond.

We are happy to reprint a couple of the photos. Perhaps some of our older employees will remember a few of the names and faces.

Left to right: George Morlang; Banks; (name forgotten), brother to second in charge; one of the packers; Swede Nelson; Wilson, a student; (name forgotten), second in charge and transitman; Slim Holtzclaw; a packer; Al Gaskill; and P. Louie Inch sitting under the transit.

Left to right: Finn Garrett, cook; Swede Nelson; Otis Ross, chief of party; (name forgotten), head chainman; Nelson; Nelson; Nelson, (there were four Nelsons in the party); (name forgotten), second in charge of the party; Slim Holtzclaw; Reemy O'Keefe, and (name forgotten), a student from Missoula University. Front row: George Morlang; (name forgotten), a student from a New York University; Banks; Al Gaskill, Helena; Bill Beatty, who later died from being gassed in World War I.

CENTER LINE
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

THOMAS L. JUDGE
GOVERNOR

GEORGE VUCANOVICH
CHAIRMAN
Helena

WILLIAM M. KESSNER
VICE CHAIRMAN
Black Eagle

G.R. COONEY
Butte

PIERRE L. BACHELLER
Billings

JAY LALONDE
Sidney

W.D. LEROUX
SECRETARY
Helena

H.J. ANDERSON
DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS

Newsletter published by the information unit of the Montana Department of Highways, Helena, Montana, 59601. Designed for highway personnel as a state-wide medium of information. All material in this publication may be reprinted without special permission.

BEVERLY GIBSON, EDITOR

Division Correspondents

Billings	James Young
Bozeman	Pat Letendre
Butte	Karen Briney
Glendive	Nancy Siegle
Great Falls	Ciel Tinelli
Havre	Edna Hess
Helena	Bev Gibson
Kalispell	Loren Dollan
Lewistown	Bea Knerr
Miles City	Jean Sweeney
Missoula	Clara Neely
Wolf Point	Agnes Heser

News items of interest to Highway Department employees are invited. They should be given to the correspondents listed above.

The Camp in Grizzly Basin

We came down over the hill that day,
Thru a fine and sifting snow;
And looked out over the basin
Where the camp was to be, below.

Thru the pine and fir and snow brush,
With the snow just mildly cold;
With the slabs of stone sticking out of the earth,
All cracked and broken and old.

We built a fire and sat around,
And talked over the work of the day;
And waited and watched and listened,
For the pack train to come that way.
For men are hungry at twilight,
After they work in the snow all day.

The darkness grew and the stars came out,
And I heard the Chief-Boss say,
"I wonder if it's possible
For the string to lose their way."

But soon the joyful sound of a bell
Came down to us thru the air;
And we knew it was the pack string,
And the bell on the old gray mare.

With the saddles unpacked, the tents went up,
The stock turned out and fed.
We loafed around the cook shack,
We ate and fixed our bed.

A bed of blankets in a canvas tarp,
Laid on fir boughs in the starlit dark;
Comfy and warm and suprisingly soft,
With the sweet strong scent of the bark.

Now folks, this is the kind of a life
The engineer loves to lead.
It's a long, hard drag, and at times it's rough,
But we like it just the same.
And wet or dry, rough or smooth,
We take it as part of the game.

—George Morlang—

At Red Rock Lakes
Trumpeter Swans

Oh, swans of the highlands
Your journey begun,
Do invisible pathways
Sweep down from the sun?
Your vigil seems lonely
Down valleys and hill,
Brushing the skyways
As only wings will . . .
Oh. let me just follow
The way that you take,
And view from the heavens
The face of a lake.
Majestically lovely—
Your glory inspires,
And lifts me supremely
To higher desires . . .
—Edna Janes Kayser—

Mr. Kermit Anderson
Information Unit
Department of Highways
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Mr. Anderson:

I am happy to write you about your Montana Exhibit, for it has been a joy to see it. I think it is so beautifully and artistically presented, with strong appeal to the finer senses. The theme song, for one thing, inspires the mind to deep thought and true things of life. It lingers with one, long after it has been heard. The song is refreshing in a troubled world of confusion and jangle. It has a soothing effect and I begin to feel rested, as I near the exhibit and hear it.

The sapphires and gold were of special interest. The paintings of C. Russell drew me at once, for we had, at one time, visited the Russell Museum and appreciated his excellent work.

Your Montana young people in charge of the exhibit are surely of the very finest, with their gracious manner and respect to others. They are the kind of young people one likes to meet and visit with, for they treat the older people with honor and kindness. You can justly be proud of them. They will always be welcome in Spokane. I was led to believe they must have come from worthy homes.

Your have made Montana more real to us.

I am enclosing some poems which I wrote, after viewing your exhibit and meeting your people. These poems express some of my feelings. I thought you might care to have them to read.

Sincerely,

Edna Janes Kayser
Spokane, Washington
July 9, 1974

WITH THE DIVISIONS

Wolf Point

Agnes Heser

Spring has sprung. We've received a lot of rain the past week and Betty reports that ducks are swimming on the roads instead of in ponds where they belong.

Burk Taylor along with about 50 other people attended a Weed Control Conference at MSU in Bozeman, March 17-22. Passed all tests with honors (93) and got his license. Reports he also had a little fun.

Lyle Knudson, maintenanceman in Wolf Point, and Lorene Roberts were married in Billings on April 27, at the First Presbyterian Church. Dr. Luther Powell officiated and their attendants were his brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. David Knudson. All of the employees wish them lots of luck in the future.

All of the highway employees wish to extend their sympathy to Vern Borden and his family in the death of his wife Nancy.

News sure travels fast between Helena and Wolf Point. A couple of our men were in Helena on April 24, 25, and 26 and we got word the morning of the 29th that Leroy Anderson and Ben Harada stayed in the HONEYMOON SUITE at Jorgenson's Holiday Inn while there. Sure makes you wonder what they were up to. Ben must have been in some pretty hot trouble cause he had to call Wolf Point to find out what shape all the county roads were in going to West Yellowstone. With all the places to pick to stay in Helena and they wound up there—informed this is also his normal behavior pattern in Helena—this is no rumor but true facts according to my source of information.

Richard Miller, maintenanceman at Glasgow, resigned May 17 to accept other employment. All of us would like to wish him lots of luck in his new job.

Vern's office got new lights installed, paint job and cleaning. So bright that he can finally see, but we think he's a little mixed up—trying to get a suntan while working in there. Rest of the office is in the process of being painted; this really brightens things up.

Missoula

Clara Neely

Meet Bonnie DeBorde, a recent addition to the engineering ranks in the Missoula division. Bonnie is a graduate of Helena Senior High, attended North American School for survey and mapping courses, has had 148 hours of training in the Laborers AGC Training Program for Montana, is married and has one son. She has had experience in various phases of construction, and is proving quite capable of performing the duties to which she is assigned. Needless to say, our fellows seem to be having no difficulty in making the necessary adjustments.

A no-host cocktail party and dinner were held at the local Elks' Club on May 18 in honor of recent retirees: Orrie Carroccia, Bibs Noreen, Benie Cyr, Glenn Gates, Harold Haasch, Butch Hersman, and Terry Pickering. Approximately 100 were on hand for the gala event. The guests were each presented with an appropriate gift.

Jack Seibert, one of our mechanics, is making a miraculous recovery at the Veterans' Hospital in Helena after having undergone surgery there. Reports are that he is rally adept at the art of maneuvering a wheel chair around. Keep up the good work, Jack! We are all rooting for you.

Jimmy Williams has been sporting a "shiner," which has been slow in healing. He probably felt he couldn't afford the beafsteak necessary to hasten the curing process. We have only heard his version of the story, and that was the he collided with a well-filled baseball glove.

Dave Todd and James Cambron have both resigned in favor of other employment. Shelley Picotte has resigned from the Department and has moved to Helena. Her husband has completed law school at the University and is practising in Helena.

The sudden deaths of Max Lawrence and Walt Wegner have been a terrific shock to the entire organization. Max had been with the department for 28 years and Walt for 23½ years.

Ed Sansom, maintenance supervisor at Superior, has assumed the duties of maintenance foreman, which position was formerly held by Walt Wegner. Ray Hoffman, who was working with Max Lawrence, is now ramrodding the Lolo Creek riprap project.

Lewistown

Bea Knerr

"Doc" Berton Spring and two buddies drove to Jan Lake in Canada, then flew into Peta Lake along the Church River in the wilderness of Canada on a fishing trip. They report excellent fishing and a barrell of fun. "Doc" is maintenance foreman in Lewistown.

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Madison Miner, maintenance foreman was one of several invited by Malmstrom Air Force Base personnel to attend a meeting in Nebraska, where missile sites and their operations were the main concern. He reports an educational meeting as well as a good time.

World's Fair "goers" so far include Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Riley, chief, field maintenance bureau; Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Ellis and family, senior clerk and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Braunbeck and family. Joe is an instrumentman. No news to report on the Fair yet, perhaps next issue.

Many engineers are on vacation leave at the present due to the construction strike. They are hoping it will be over soon.

Mrs. R.W. Freeman returned from a visit with family and relatives in Mississippi bringing two of her sisters back with her for a taste of Montana.

Bea and Vern Knerr plan a trip to the Calgary Stampede in July, more to report on that later. Bea is clerk 2 in Lewistown office.

Ron—"the radio man" joins our gang. He is busy looking for a house to move his family into from the Helena area.

The Lewistown area had 6 inches of moisture, rain and snow, during the month of May—now it has turned hot and everything looks great, but will need more rain soon if it stays hot. Come on over to our house and see for yourself.

Local Union No. 1073 will be holding their annual picnic on August 4th at the fairgrounds this year. It will be pot luck with pop, ice cream and beer furnished by the Local. Bring your table service and pot luck lunch and join in for a good time.

Great Falls

Ciel Tinelli

Charles Getts, Sun River, supervisor-field maintenance section, retired May 31st after 40 years of service with the department, all spent in and around that area. Coffee and cake was served at a reception for him at the general office and he was presented with a toy orange

truck, printed with his radio call (31-15) and motor pool number, and the dump body was piled with silver dollars, our appreciation for his many years of service and friendship. We are sorry to see him go but wish him all the joy and luck and happiness that his future years will hold.

Lloyd Kunkel, Charlie's helper for over 18 years, will succeed him and we know he will carry on in the same smooth, efficient manner for which Lloyd has always been noted, so we congratulate him, too, on his new promotion.

We are waiting for Harold (Gabby) White, maintenanceman at Augusta, to come in with the cigars, seeing as he and wife, Bonita are the proud parents of little April Dawn, born the middle of May.

Jim Sullivan held the winning raffle ticket for a side of prime beef and while he was in that happy mood, he and Ruth flew to St. Paul for a vacation of ball games, fishing and mainly to see a special nephew graduate from high school.

Joe Brunett, retired sectionman from Lincoln, finally paid us a visit. We were so happy and shocked to see him that our vintage water tank blew up and set us all to manning mops and bailing with buckets. Thanks to Joe we now have a brand new water heater which we needed for a long time.

George Larson, maintenanceman at Rogers Pass, has been at it again . . . came in first in the Class A Invitational Horseshoe Tournament held in Great Falls. Wish he would go on to a national contest, he'd have a lot of us fans cheering him on.

The first sign of spring brought on a rush of vacationers. Clyde and Arabelle Foster vacationed at Washington, D.C., Maryland and New York, visiting Clyde's mom and family. Nancy and Howie Hahn took a trip to San Francisco, took in some sports car races and visited the famous wineries along the way.

Dale Sirucek flew to Kinchloe AFB in Michigan to set up a future construction project. Malcolm Marshall flew to Phoenix to see his daughter, and Art Dors flew to Kansas City to see his daughter graduate. Charles and Alberta King drove to Iowa and Missouri to visit relatives and Milt and Bev Ingersoll drove to California and Las Vegas where they picked up Bev's mother and brought her back to the Rogers Pass ranch for the summer.

Joe and Betty Rege took in Reno, Lake Tahoe and Sacramento; Marge and Dewey Anderson drove to Delaware to visit family and friends, and Ken and Emily Trovatten just got back from the Spokane Expo.

Gene Hodges and family entered their show dogs at the Spokane Dog Show and son Brian came off with an Obediance Award.

Albert (Spuds) Valacich and wife, Jeannie recently bought a home down the Missouri River at what is called the Siebold Tracts. Can just see Spuds gazing at the peaceful scenery with a fishpole in his hands.

Clarence Christensen is back to work, on crutches, after having suffered a broken right kneecap in a motorcycle accident. He was driving his Kawasaki Coyote with his young daughter, Rachelle as a passenger, and she luckily escaped any injury.

Our sick list consisted of Dick Gustovich, lab technician, entering the hospital with a perforated ulcer; Edward Strainer, maintenance foreman, who went through a series of hospital tests; and George Davis also re-entered the hospital for some follow-up surgery. We think George just got lonesome for his pretty nurses.

Our sympathies are extended to Bud Williams who lost his sister in Denver, and to Lois and Jim Powell. Lois's father passed away in Plentywood.

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Butte

Karen Briney

Congratulations are in order to the following men for their devotion and time to the Department of Highways. They are: Ted Selon, 5 years; Floyd Strozzi, 20 years; William Fogarty and Gene Goodland, both with 25 years.

Two Butte bowling teams attended the state bowling tournament in Bozeman held in May. All who participated enjoyed a very good time. Two of the bowlers were lucky enough to bring home enough money to buy a beer or two. Pat Kane placed 11th in the singles and Vin Downing placed 19th. Would you believe these two men were both from right of way? They all hope to be able to give it a try again next year.

Congratulations to Ken and Judy Fisher, they are the proud parents of a baby boy, Mark Russell, born to them on April Fools Day. Ken is a rodman on Bill Bork's crew.

Vin Downing has something to be proud of. His son Dann, an accomplished organist, is now playing at the Ponderosa in Great Falls, and soon to open the Heritage Inn in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. Good luck Dann!

Sympathies are extended to Mrs. Stocks on the death of her husband Wayne. He was a maintenanceman II with Dale Canover at Wisdom.

A no-host retirement dinner was held at Lydia's in Butte on May 21st, to honor Peter E. Cassidy who has retired from the Butte division. Pete, who was an engineer I at the time of his retirement, has worked for the highway department since August 4, 1941. On October 12, 1941 Pete entered into the service, returning to the Department of Highways on November 27, 1945. Pete was presented with a savings bond and a dozen golf balls. Congratulations Pete, we hope you have many happy years of retirement ahead of you, and a lot of holes in one!

Best wishes to newlyweds Bill Richards and Peggy Ryan, who exchanged vows on May 24th. Bill is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Richards. Bill is a machinist in the Butte shop.

We would like to welcome back to our forces Joe Wallace, maintenanceman II after two open heart surgeries and a long period of recuperation. Good health and much happiness.

In March our Butte State Employees Federal Credit Union elected new credit union officials that will serve until the 1975 annual meeting. They are Robert E. Fischer, president; James I. Killoy, 1st vice president; James D. Fogerty, 2nd vice president; John W. Colvin, treasurer; Sandy Pattinson, secretary. A heartfelt thanks goes out to former Board Members, Gene Goodland and Bill Tamietti Sr. who have often exhausted their efforts in behalf of the credit union. Gene was president for the past three years and Bill was 2nd vice president for three years. Many thanks fellows for a job well done. The credit committee consists of Irvin C. Broell, chairman; John H. Colvin, secretary; and Hugh P. Douglas, member. On the supervisory committee is Robert E. Eccleston, chairman; Lesley G. Peterson, secretary, and John E. Jones, member.

Also on the sick list and we are glad to hear is feeling up to himself is Sam Stanisich, maintenance supervisor in the Butte division.

BITS OF WISDOM: One of the reasons computers can do more work than people is that they don't have to stop to answer the phone.

Kalispell

Loren Dollan

A number of Kalispell division employees received service awards within the last several months. Maintenance employees receiving awards were Bill Delaney, 35 years; Owen Nordtome, 25 years; Ken Clothier, 20 years; Jack Seelye, 20 years; and Glen Derrickson, 5 years. Construction employees receiving awards are pictured from left to right: Jim Laukner, 5 years; Jack Hunt, 10 years; Howard Kyriss, 5 years; Howard Stockwell, 25 years; Merle Christensen, 10 years; Dan Tombrink, 5 years; and Pete Nelson, 15 years.

Willard Stockwell has been in Seattle the past month with his wife, Giselei, who has been ill and undergoing treatment. Willard has been taking complex instructions and is now licensed to operate a kidney machine for Giselei's treatment. They are scheduled to return sometime in June. We all wish them our best, and will be glad to see them home again.

Everyone will be glad to see the operator's and laborer's strike come to an end, and increased construction work.

Congratulations to Edwina Donahue, who was promoted from a clerk typist to a clerk 2.

We all wish a speedy recovery to Gary Jones' wife, Jeannie, who underwent surgery recently, in Spokane.

Kalispell Service Awards

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Now that the general season is open, the fish stories are beginning to circulate. The best of the Flathead fishing opens the third Saturday in June.

We are all braced for the snow run-off. Let's hope it won't be like last January.

Bill Hebert and Howard Stockwell are urging all golfers to attend the Western State Highway Tournament. The tournament will be held on July 27 and 28, at the Kalispell Municipal Golf Course.

Three new temporary engineering employees in the division are Ron Holden, Gary Berg, and Eugene McFarlane. Joe Sullivan has joined the maintenance division.

Cindy Dunne, clerk typist, and this year's Whitefish Winter Carnival Queen, was at the world's fair recently, and participated in Spokane's Lilac Festival parade.

"National Secretary's Day" was observed in the division office and the girls were presented flowers.

Al Fopp, stockman, and Vic Baker, office manager, are taking their vacations in Europe this summer. They will leave in June, and Al will be gone a month, and Vick will be gone eight weeks. The Fopps and Bakers are scheduled to meet in Germany during their tours. We all wish them a pleasant trip and a safe return.

Bozeman

Pat Letendre

Ole Olson is running around bragging about his new grandkids—twins (boy and girl)—born on Bev and Ole's 26th wedding anniversary. One of the little ones just about blew it by waiting until 11:53 p.m. to make the scene.

We have mentioned the fishermen in our division in the past, but Jim Brooks' 102 lb. paddlefish must take the record. He caught it near the Fred Robinson bridge. To appreciate the size of the fish please note that Jim is 6'2" tall. Incidentally, the fish netted 19 pounds of edible meat.

The "IT" . . . appropriate abbreviation for inventory team . . .is busy, busy. This illustrious duo

composed of Bud Chapman and Del Schmitt can tell you where, why and how much about any single item in the entire division. In fact, they are so thorough that when they came across the 33 empty tobacco tins in E.P. Elgen's desk, they immediately computed that they would hold 825 fishing worms! What are you saving those tins for anyway, E.P.?

The highway maintenance families are well represented in the Babe Ruth League in Bozeman. Out of 90 kids citywide on the six teams, eight of them are from our clan: Todd Jensen, Bret and Tay Chapman, Tom Walker, Ken Hembree, Eddy and Warren Thompson and Jim Letendre. And then there are those coaches: Guy Hembree and Bud Chapman in the Babe Ruth League and Sid McCarty has his hands full with his undefeated Little League team in Harrison.

Lynda Steele, daughter of Ruth and Bill (working shop foreman) graduated with honors from MSU. Lynda and three companions took a 35-day tour of Europe during the summer, then back to the grindstone and working towards her M.A. in math while utilizing a Teaching Assistantship.

Our sympathy to Garry Cotant, rodman at Livingston, on the death of his father and to Alvin Pierce, sectionman at Carbella, who also lost his father.

Hal Propp, temporary maintenanceman 1 in the shop, has left our fold for (1) marriage to Donna Everett from Anaconda and (2) four years of active duty as a second lieutenant in the Air Force. We're all going to sleep better nights knowing Hal is protecting us, I think.

Billy Ford bought a boat to replace the one which sank in the accident at Canyon Ferry in early spring. That incident was a scary deal and a narrow escape for Billy C., his 7 year old grandson and two other fellows who were dumped into the icy water. The boat was a total loss.

Good luck to Great Falls on their next year's bowling tournament. It was great fun hosting the event last spring in Bozeman. It is always an eye-opener to some of us "social" bowlers to witness how earnest and downright good some of our highway bowlers really are.

Frances and Al Bruner, rodman, sold their house and moved into a nice new mobile home. Al lost 14 pounds during the transfer. Speaking of losing weight . . . Elliott Barkell, Bud Chapman, Dick Walstrom, Jim Townsend and Phil Westfall looked like they shed 10 lbs. and were enjoying every minute of it. Upon closer examination it was determined they were standing taller and looking so chipper because they each had one new high school graduate in the family: Jane Barkell, Melody Chapman, Danny Walstrom, David Townsend and Deena Westfall.

Erwin Dunbar assumed duties as maintenance foreman in early June. More about Mr. D. and dependents when we've known him a bit. During the interim of Bill Bailey's retirement in early February and Erwin's transfer, Jim Brooks did a bangup job as acting maintenance foreman.

Les Engen, mechanic, spent a couple bucks recently on a fishing trip. He and two buddies drove to Otter Lake in Canada then flew into Black Bear Lake and lakes (pontoon type planes) for some exciting fishing. Well, the weather was lousy, the fishing was fair and the flying was great—particularly the day that the pilot decided against landing

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because the lake was too fogged in. When the plane and occupants returned to the main camp, the guide said he would provide a pilot that could land them and promptly presented a female pilot who took them right to the middle of the lake. Mercy, mercy.

Dan Urbach graduated again. Seems like every two years or so we are commenting on Dan's recent graduation of some sort. This time he is the proud possessor of an M.S. in civil engineering. The oral examination that he took convinced him that he really does not want any degree higher than the one he now has . . . in other words, the orals were stiff.

LeRoy Switzler, lab tech, drives a smokey, smokey highway orange station wagon. In fact, he received a summons from a man in blue who said Fritz "deliberately polluted by excessive smoke." The ticket was suspended because at the time he was accosted, Fritz was on his way home from the parts house with the new parts for a complete overhaul. True.

Swede Jensen, sectionman and president of the Little Britches Rodeo Club, assures us that the rodeo will do nothing but get bigger and better. The second annual rodeo was held for aspiring rodeo contestants—boys and girls—between the ages of 8-13 in the Junior Class. The rodeo is conducted just like a big league rodeo and is excellent training for the up and coming rodeo stars.

It may not be too important, but that "Minny" Walker that joined the "I Quit" group in the last Centerline news is really Jimmy Walker . . . and he's big . . . and he asked why the Minny bit? . . . . and he's tough . . . and . . . (and we're sorry—ed.)

Miles City

Jean Sweeney

The home of Ed and Rose Dorothy was the scene of a very pretty wedding on Mother's Day when their daughter Lori Ann was married to Mike Loomis of Miles City. The candlelight ceremony took place at 3:00 p.m. with a number of close friends and relatives in attendance. Peggy Lee Dorothy was maid of honor for her sister and Paul Kuntz, uncle of the groom was best man. The young couple will be residing in Terry, where the groom is employed. Ed is instrumentman on Ray Garland's crew in the Miles City division.

Dave Goodson, stockman, has resigned his position to take employment with the railroad. Dave started with the Department of Highways on May 2, 1966 as an engineering aide I. He was advanced to engineering aide II on July 1, 1967 and then transferred to maintenance as stockman on February 1, 1968. Dave and wife Linda have two children.

Miles City division was well represented at the State Highway Bowling Tournament with four men's teams and two women's teams plus some extra gals and guys who bowled singles and doubles. The gals really outbested the men in their endeavors at the tournament. Del Borer and Duane Strohmayer placed 7th in the men's doubles and Duane was 12th in the mens' all event. Virginia Strohmayer placed 5th in the women's singles and Nancy Branum in 9th place and Agnes Mickus in 12th place in the same category.

Ron Myrvik, clerk, placed 3rd in the singles men's event at the recent Miles City Association Bowling Tournament. Congratulations Ron!

The Miles City division is going to need a bike rack to accommodate all the bicycle enthusiasts that seem to be increasing in numbers. Listing those we have seen biking to work are: Kenny Neumiller, rodman; Don Stewart, instrumentman; Kenneth Haughawout, office manager; Kenneth Rapp, supervisor-division construction section; Ralph Kaze, division shop foreman; Joe Finch, shop mechanic; Kurt Frette, engineering aide 2, Ray Potter, instrumentman; Art Braut, division materials supervisor; and Bruce Jackman, lab technician 4.

Bruce Jackman, lab technician 4 and Kenny Neumiller, rodman took part in the March of Dimes Walkathon held May 4. Most of their sponsors for this event were highway personnel and the fellows both walked 16 miles which was the entire route planned for the marchers. Jackman made $51.75 as his contribution to the March of Dimes and Kenny Neumiller $31.00 as his contribution. That was a lot of walking for a very worthwhile cause.

Pat and Darrel (Goodie) Gudmundson, sign painter were among the first visitors to the Expo '74 in Spokane and reported a very enjoyable trip and three days touring the Fair. They reported that the buses picked them up at their campgrounds and took them right into the fairgrounds. Even though the weather was cool while there, the attendance was excellent. "Goodie" said, he could just imagine the size of the crowds when the weather is better and the schools out for the summer and the tourist start to come—they will be tremendous. He also reported that obtaining gasoline was absolutely no problem with quite a variation in prices. The Gudmundsons visited their son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Gudmundson of Kalispell enroute to Spokane.

Amid daisies and candlelight and with the Miles Community College Singers singing "The Lord's Prayer", Truman A. Bovee, engineering aide I, and Judy Kay Richardson, Miles City, were married April 20 at the First United Methodist Church in Miles City. Truman is the granson of Al Bovee, retired shop mechanic. The bride was honored with three showers prior to the wedding. Following a short honeymoon trip the couple is residing at 401 Washington Street in Miles City. He is on Robert Swanson's crew in the Miles City division, and she is employed at the Eagles Manor.

Linda Joy "Jody" Rogge, Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joy Rogge of Broadus and Lonnie Zimmer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Zimmer, also of Broadus were married at a small family wedding in the garden of the bride's parents on a Sunday morning. About 150 people attended the afternoon reception in the garden of the bride's parents. Following a wedding trip to the Black Hills, the couple will live in Broadus this summer and the bride will return to Miles City in the fall to

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Linda and Lonnie

finish nursing school. Joy Rogge is sectionman helper in the Miles City division, with headquarters at Broadus.

George (Babe) Mickus, GVW scale supervisor took this picture of his family on Mother's Day, which was an opportune time to take it of the four generations—three generations of mothers and an eventual mother-to-be as representative of the fourth generation. Pictured are Mrs. Niels (Esther) Nielson; her daughter Mrs. George (Agnes) Mickus; her grand-daughter, Mrs. Roy (Sandra) Mickus; her great-grand-daughter,

Michelle Lynn Anderson. Sandy and her daughter Michelle have returned to Okalahoma City after visiting Babe and Agnes and Agnes' mother for a month.

Carl Turley, who retired May 2, is shown at his lathe on his last day of work in the Miles City division shop. Carl has been with the Department of Highways in the Miles City division for 30 years as a machinist. Carl says he has no special plans for the future. A party was held in the division office for Carl Thursday, May 2nd and a large cake appropriately decorated for the occasion was served. Carl was presented with a billfold and money from his fellow employees.

Turley

Glendive

Nancy Siegle

Receiving their five year pins recently were Dave Bacon and Ron Cline; Ralph Lee received his 10 year pin, and Ed Kessel and Marvin Mitchell their 20 year pins.

With the coming of spring, school is over and for many who will be graduating from college it's over permanently. Jim and Terry Steffen, son and daughter-in-law of Erma Steffen, clerk 2, graduated from Montana State University in Bozeman on June 8. Jim is majoring in accounting and Terry in elementary education. Both Jim and Terry attended Dawson College in Glendive for their first two years and transferred to Bozeman as juniors. After graduation they plan to move out to the ranch near Richey.

JoAnn Stuhr, wife of Gordy Stuhr, steam cleaner, will graduate from Western in Dillon in June. JoAnn also attended two years at Dawson in Glendive and finished up this year at Western after a two year break. Gordy will sure be glad to have her home again fulltime.

Vern Oellerman, combinationman, is also very proud of his son, Doug, who graduated from Bozeman in June. Doug's major is Agriculture Engineering and he's attended all four years in Bozeman. On June 23rd Doug will join the Peace Corps for two years and will be stationed in Morocco.

With the contractors' strike came a few extra hands with little work to do. Several of the engineering aides, rodmen and instrumentmen have been helping take inventory in the division office. The extra help has been nice but we all hope the strike is over soon.

Carol Curtiss, former radio girl, dropped in around Easter time to say "hi." She and her family were up from Minnesota to spend Easter with her mother in Beach, North Dakota.

Bob Eggebrecht, office manager, and Dean Knapp, acting chief, field maintenance bureau, attended the meeting in Great Falls for office managers and maintenance chiefs in April. They came home chockfull of information and seemed to enjoy themselves, too.

Wayne Scott was promoted to division materials supervisor in the Glendive lab. Wayne replaced Ed Jonutis who retired in April.

Also promoted was Bob Scherting to chief-right of way department on May 25 to replace Dean Knapp who took the maintenance chief's position.

Rickey Miller, rodman, is terminating his employment with the department on June 7. Rickey has been accepted for employment by the United States Border Patrol.

Karl Overlie, instrumentman, resigned from the department in May to accept other employment.

Our sincere sympathy to Jerry Kuester who lost his father suddenly in early April.

Also receiving their service pins were Mel Kegley, instrumentman, for 15 years service, and Howard (Pat) Kelly, project manager for 25 years of service.

WITH THE DIVISIONS

Billings

James Young

A surprise house warming was held in April for Clarence and Gail Walth at 1235 Terry Avenue in Billings.

About 24 right of way employees and friends planned the surprise party for Clarence and Gail with a pot luck dinner and refreshments and then presented them with a large barbeque grill.

The Walths have, with the help of many friends, completed building their own home. The two bedroom house is painted white and is trimmed in red.

Housewarming

Pat Gerrells, engineering aid II, landed two large paddlefish this past April. One fish weighed 80 pounds and the second slightly over 103 pounds. Pat said the fishing was very good and it was quite a thrill to tie onto the fish. Like all true fisherman, Pat declined to give the exact location where the fish were caught. He did say that Fish and Game officials were on hand checking and tagging in the general area.

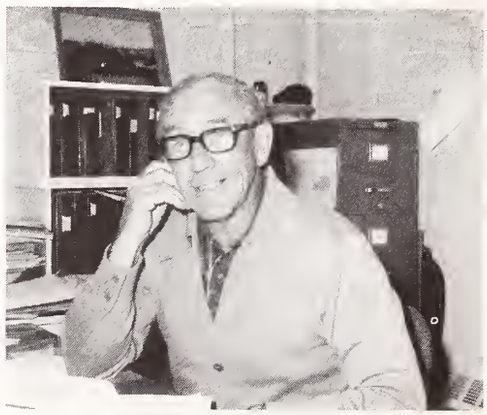
Erwin Dunbar has been promoted to division maintenance foreman and will transfer to Bozeman. Erwin's many friends gathered at the V.F.W. Club on Lewis Avenue in Billings on May 24, for a dinner and dance in his honor. We wish him all the luck in his new position.

Beverly

Beverly Tartagliz is the new draftsman in the Billings division design section. Bev was born in New Haven, Connecticut on May 6, 1947 and graduated from Glastonbury High School in Connecticut. She has worked for O.J.T. in electronic drafting at Metrodata Systems, Inc., in Norman, Oakland, and Data Appliance Corp. in Glastonbury, Connecticut before working with the Department of Highways in Billings.

Beverly said she first came to Billings almost nine years ago and has worked on a horse ranch during part of her time here. "I liked the wide open spaces, and the big beautiful sky. Something one doesn't find in Connecticut," she said. Beverly enjoys camping, hunting, fishing, playing pool, riding horses and golf or almost anything outdoors. Beverly also worked on Walt Reichenberg's survey crew for a short time.

Six employees add 105 years service time to state records. William F. Woolston, chief-field maintenance bureau, 30 years; Ken Bowersox, project manager, II, 25 years; Dave Garton, instrumentman, Don Delmonica, Billings lab, and James Young, designer II, all with 15 years of service; Ron Cline, engineering aide II, 5 years.



Woolston

John Michunovich, right of way, has been elected vice president of the Serbian National Federation Trial Board. John has attended meetings in Spokane, Vancouver, and Seattle and is actively working with the National Serbian Basketball Tournament Association.

Shelbi Bowersox, daughter of Ken Bowersox, has returned home from North Dakota, and will work this summer in the Columbus Hospital. She is planning to major in physical therapy.

Donna Dunn, wife of Cliff Dunn, division office engineer, was hospitalized recently for surgery. Donna has returned home and is doing fine.

Sam Hatly, project manager II, reports his wife has been on the sick list, but is reported to be improving.

Earl Brown, office manager, mentioned his grandson, Jeff, had undergone surgery in May to correct an ear infection. We are pleased to report that Jeff is fine.

Mark Chamberlain, former highway employee was visiting the office the other day with his brother, Merritt. Mark had the misfortune

WITH THE DIVISIONS

Bowersox, Klimper

last winter of hitting a barbed wire fence while snowmobiling. Recovered now, Mark has a long scar on his throat, the only evidence of the near-fatal accident. Mark said, "I was one really lucky guy. There were only two choices, the doctor said after the accident, either you will have good news or bad news. In my case, it was good news, I made it."

Billings employees wish to extend congratulations to the Bozeman bowling committee for a well run tournament.

Employees extend sincere words of sympathy to Rod Wegner, maintenanceman II, and his family on the death of his father, Walter G. Wegner, maintenance foreman in Missoula who passed away on April 25th. Our thoughts also go out to Everett Williams on the sudden death of his father and to Beverly Tartaglia on the loss of her grandfather in Connecticut.

NAMES CONFUSE TYPISTS

Doyle B. Saxby, director of the State Department of Administration, recently notified all state agencies that occasionally employees confuse and misspell the name of Chouteau County. He said, "the confusion arises from the fact that the official spelling of the county is Chouteau, whereas the official spelling of the town is Choteau."

His memo explains, "a historian tells us that Chouteau County was named after the St. Louis fur trader Pierre Chouteau, Jr. when the Montana Territory was organized in 1864. Apparently some of our early pioneers could not spell too good either since the County was officially misspelled Choteau until corrected to Chouteau by the 1903 Legislative Assembly. Unfortunately, the official spelling of the town Choteau was never corrected, thus the two spellings remain to plague us today. Hopefully, this brief history lesson will help us all be more accurate in the future."

HIGHWAY HOSTESS—Linda Grief, a sophomore at the University of Montana, Missoula, is the hostess at the Tourist Information Desk in the lobby of the highway building this summer. The popular service is now in its tenth season. Linda is 19 and graduated from Helena High School in 1973. The daughter of Barbara Cloninger, Helena, Linda enjoys swimming, water skiing, sewing and cooking. She is pursuing a general studies course at the University. Linda notes that the number of tourists visiting the information desk is up from last year, and many are in the state as a result of visiting the Montana pavillion at Expo '74. Visitors from many states and foreign countries have signed her guest book. Most express interest in the parks, recreational facilities, museums and other historic places of interest.

16 WAYS TO GET BETTER GAS MILEAGE

WITH THE GASOLINE shortage persisting, most drivers are increasingly concerned about getting more mileage from each tank of fuel. Clean-air devices on modern cars do detract from fuel economy, but it is possible to realize a saving by careful attention to driving and car maintenance habits.

Automotive and petroleum industry people generally agree that procedures such as the following can improve gas mileage:

1 The first prerequisite is a well-tuned, properly maintained car. Follow all periodic maintenance procedures as recommended in your owner's manual to insure maximum vehicle performance and fuel economy.

2 The next most important driving rule is to go slower. The higher the speed the more wind resistance your engine has to overcome by using more gas. If you reduce your speed from 60 mph to 50 mph, you can save 10 per cent or more in fuel consumption, which is like getting 10 or so free miles for every 100 miles you drive.

3 Don't let the engine idle for long periods, either during warm-up or waiting outside the school or supermarket. Letting the engine idle means you're getting zero miles per gallon.

4 Look ahead to upcoming traffic lights. In approaching a red light, slow down if traffic permits and give the light a chance to turn green. In this way you don't have to stop and then waste the gas needed to get the car in motion again.

5 Remember that fast stops also cost fuel. They waste coasting time that otherwise could have rolled you up to a red light or stop sign with practically no use of gas.

6 Keep your speed as steady as possible. Bear in mind that economy driving doesn't call for a slow, road-blocking pace, but it does call for smooth operation of the car. Every quick acceleration costs money because it calls for an extra squirt of gas into the engine. Smooth driving also calls for anticipating needs for slow-downs or extra speed. In this way your maneuver can be made smoothly rather than in gas-eating spurts.

7 One of the commonest gas-wasting habits is making a "jack rabbit" start when a traffic light turns green. You won't save much time, if any, but you are certain to waste fuel. If your car has an automatic transmission it will upshift to the more economical higher gear ranges sooner with a light throttle. With a manual transmission, you can upshift as soon as the car will run smoothly in the next higher gears.

8 The carburetor doesn't have to be "leaned out" to extremes for good economy. Having it adjusted to factory specifications will cause it to perform economically.

9 Don't "ride" the brake pedal for slight slow-downs; ease off the accelerator instead. And don't use the brake pedal as a rest for your left foot.

10 Make one shopping trip take the place of two or three. Stock up on food to cut down on trips to the store. Confine shopping to a few areas to cut down on mileage from store to store.

11 Organize a car pool to take children to school or recreational activities, and in driving to and from work.

12 Tires should be kept inflated to the pressure recommended by the manufacturer. Underinflated tires increase rolling resistance which requires more fuel to drive the car. Improperly inflated tires also wear out faster. Steel-belted radial ply tires, which are standard on the Thunderbird and LTD Squire Brougham Option and optional on all models of Ford Division's other five car lines, have proved in tests that they have benefits that result in improved fuel economy. The improvement amounted to roughly one and one-half tanks less fuel per year required, based on a driver's accumulating 12,000 miles in city/suburban driving.

13 A dirty air cleaner restricts the flow of air to the carburetor, causing the engine to run on a richer mixture—which is a higher-than-normal ratio of fuel to air.

14 Spark plugs that misfire only two per cent of the time (a rate that wouldn't be noticed by the average motorist) spew raw gasoline out the exhaust pipe. Having regular spark plug checks can save this fuel.

15 A dirty or faulty carburetor or a sticking automatic choke wastes gas and contributes to air pollution. Have your mechanic check these and other areas he may find to be gas wasters.

16 The cooling system thermostat is a factor in fuel economy. A faulty or improper thermostat can waste gas by prolonging engine warm-up in cold weather.